

PLEASE AMEND THE CLAIMS AS FOLLOWS:

Cancel claims 1-5, 14, 15, 16, 29, 30, 31, / 54-69

7. (amended) A nickel-metal hydride multi-cell battery,
comprising:

a battery case; and

a plurality of nickel-metal hydride electrochemical
cells housed in said battery case, each of said cells
including:

at least one nickel hydroxide positive electrode,
at least one hydrogen storage alloy negative electrode and
an alkaline electrolyte; and

an enclosure housing said at least one positive
electrode, said at least one negative electrode and said
electrolyte, said enclosure including a gas permeable
membrane allowing passage of cell gases into and out of
said cell but preventing passage of said electrolyte out of
said cell.

Q4
9. (amended) The battery of claim 7, wherein said membrane
comprises a hydrophobic material.

Q5
22. (amended) A nickel-metal hydride multi-cell battery,
comprising:

a battery case; and

a plurality of nickel-metal hydride electrochemical
cells housed in said battery case, each of said cells
including:

at least one nickel hydroxide positive electrode,
at least one hydrogen storage alloy negative electrode and
an alkaline electrolyte; and

an enclosure housing said at least one positive
electrode, said at least one negative electrode and said
electrolyte, said enclosure having an opening allowing
passage of cell gases into and out of said cell; and

OP
end

a hydrophobic material positioned relative to
said opening so as to prevent passage of said
electrolyte out of said cell.